

**East Noble High School Grad
Jonathon Kane**

A short timeline of events after you graduated from ENHS. (Colleges attended, degrees pursued/achieved, goals)

After graduating from East Noble, I spent the summer preparing to leave home for my dream school, Huntington University. In the Fall of 2014, I enrolled as a freshman in Huntington's Digital Media Arts program to pursue as Bachelor of Science in Film Production. My four years in college proved to be some of the most eye-opening, adventurous, and wonderful years of my life so far. Early on in college, I was thrown into the world of filmmaking and completed over 20 different movie projects in the span of my 4 years. In the Winter of 2016, I traveled to Japan for 2 weeks to shoot a documentary and a TV pilot for PBS. My junior year (2017) brought me the opportunity to run a film production company while still being a full-time student for a semester. And I rounded out my time on Huntington's campus my senior year by shooting a short film entirely in the Fort Wayne International Airport. This film has now gone on to win over 10 awards in various film festivals across the country, including the "Best of Fest" Award in Las Vegas. This Vegas competition selected us as the best from 1,500 student entries across America.

However, my college experience did not end in Indiana. For my final semester of school, I embarked on a "study abroad program" in Los Angeles at the Los Angeles Film Studies Center (LAFSC). While at LAFSC during spring of 2018, I fell in love with Hollywood and the people out there. I had the opportunity to serve as the TV showrunner for a Web TV comedy about high school cross-country runners (a big part of my life at East Noble). Additionally, I was able to complete an internship for Adaptive Studios, a company in Hollywood that had worked on big shows with Matt Damon and Ben Affleck.

After a whirlwind 4 years, I graduated from Huntington University in May of 2018 with my Bachelor's Degree in Film Production. The next step for me was working some film freelance work over the summer so I could save up money to return to L.A. in the Fall. Thanks to the support from countless friends and family, as well as some miraculous provision from God, I was able to return to Los Angeles in the Fall of 2018. I have been living there ever since.

Los Angeles has me very busy splitting my time between working at Paramount Studios in Hollywood in their Page Program. My duties there include giving studio tours, managing TV show audiences, and learning the ins and outs of the film industry. To pay the bills, I also work for an augmented reality tech company called Superba AR. With Superba, I help film and edit their commercials marketing their smartphone apps that are changing the future of technology. With my remaining free time, I pour into my local church, Reality LA, spend time with friends exploring the city, and write speeches and talks as I pursue my newest venture: becoming a public speaker.

What you want to achieve...in the next 5-10 years

I'm becoming more careful to not focus too heavily on achievements being the most important thing in life. I find that reaching a work-life balance is one of the most important achievements in life. That being said, there are a few things I would really like to work toward or complete in the next 5-10 years.

From the moment I met my college roommate and now lifelong best friend Ben Crane, the two of us have wanted to form our own film production company someday. Our creative collaboration is some of the best I have ever experienced, and our friendship and years of living together make us great business partners. The goal is to set-up shop in Fort Wayne once I return from my film ventures in L.A. and Ben returns from his ventures in Oklahoma City.

Another goal of my mine is to constantly direct more and more films. Directing on the set of movies is one of my greatest joys in life. I will drop anything for a chance to direct an amazing script, no matter how small the project may be.

How ENHS prepared you for life after high school

As I look back over my time at East Noble High School, I feel like my time there impressed three things upon me.

First, my time with Craig Munk in East Noble Theatre caused my love of the arts to ignite and flourish. Without this chance to experience drama, performing, and art, I highly doubt I would have followed through in becoming an artist.

Second, I developed the mental toughness and perseverance to push through the rigor and difficult circumstances that accompanies college, filmmaking, and living in L.A. This is mostly thanks to two teachers I had, Mark Liepe and Keith Hoffar. As my cross-country coach, Mr. Liepe taught me how to push through pain both on the race course and in the classroom (i.e. Pre-Ap Biology). He gave me a mental toughness that has allowed me to be able to suffer through the drudgery of work and then push on to excellence. Similarly, Mr. Hoffar taught me how to truly become disciplined enough to learn a massive amount of difficult material (i.e. AP U.S. History and AP Econ). Many of the things that Mr. Hoffar has taught me have ended up in my movie and TV scripts.

Third, I have to owe one of the most important attitude adjustments I had in high school to Matt Rickey. I remember vividly a moment during my junior year AP English and Language class where Mr. Rickey introduced us to the phrase "Adapt and Overcome." At the time, he used the phrase as a wake-up call to those complaining about how tiresome and hard high school can be. But for some reason that phrase has *never* left me, and I now apply it to my whole life. By learning to adapt to your new circumstances, without complaining, and then just working to overcome your new situation, you can reach heights that you never thought possible.